2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

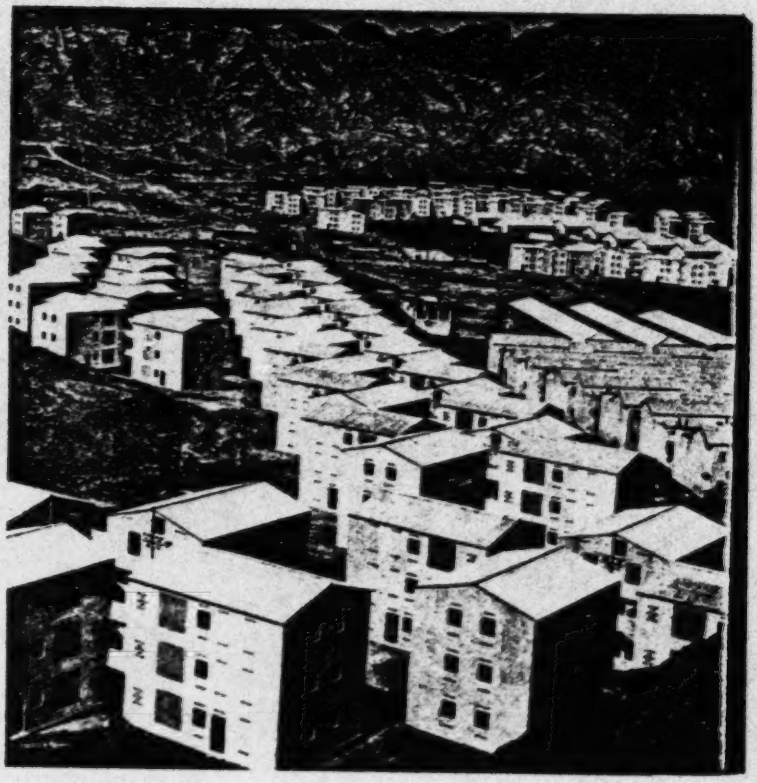
their thoughts and hands to the production once again of merchant ships.

It is interesting to note that immediately before the Suez crisis in 1956 over 5,000 ships a year, representing more than twenty-two million net registered tons of shipping were calling at Aden. They took some four million tons of oil away from the harbour in their bunkers, much of which was supplied by the Aden Refinery which was completed in 1953.

The consequence of all this was a considerable expansion of business, not only in the port, but also in the Colony as a whole, and more and more people flocked in from the mainland and from overseas to supply the labour required by merchants and by building contractors who were beginning to make good the time that had been wasted during the war years, when building in any form other than for purely military purposes had been impossible. The consequences, or one of them, of this influx of people was to make the housing shortage acute and was to cause me, as a Legislative Councillor, many weary evenings on Committees. At the same time our shortage of staff and floating craft was a major preoccupation during my mornings and evenings in the Port Trust building. Skilled men were almost impossible to find, and high wages were not the solution to the problem, because everybody had been abroad during the war and now that it was over everyone wanted to stay at home; added to which there was the six-year gap represented by the war years in the production of skilled men, in particular in the engineering profession. It was a difficult time, but we overcame the major obstacles and the port was never forced to close even for an hour. Sickness reduced our ranks temporarily and tugs broke down and launches ran into each other, but the work went on, thanks to the supreme loyalty of the Port Trust employees.

Eventually more pilots were recruited and half-fledged engineers found and pilot launches and a new tug ordered, but as soon as the men could be found and the craft launched so the demand increased, and in 1951 when I left the Port Trust my task was still far from complete. All our time, however, was

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1



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GOVERNMENT HOUSING SCHEME 1955–56. BLOCKS OF FLATS FOR WORKERS AND THEIR FAMILIES

(By courtesy of the P.R.O., Aden)

[facing p. 147]

Labour Relations in the Colony

soon showed that they could be educated, that they were capable of doing more than just manual labour and that with understanding and encouragement there was very little that was beyond their capabilities. They began to resent the presence in their midst of an army of Indian clerks and artisans doing work which, not always with justification at that time, they considered they were capable of doing and which should be theirs by right. Unfortunately, this resentment was not confined to the Indian workers, but was directed as well against their European employers which did not make for happy racial or labour relations in the future.

The general condition of Arab labour in the Colony when I first came to know Aden in the nineteen-thirties can only be described as disgraceful. There were no superannuation benefits, and as wages left no margin between income and expenditure, nothing could be saved against old age and sickness. There were no holidays with pay, and most workers had to find their own living accommodation, and the vast majority received no medical treatment or benefit through their employers. Labour relations, as we now understand that term, did not exist. There was no form of consultation between master and man and the authority of the master was absolute.

Coal and cargo coolies were provided with accommodation; they were housed in long sheds, owned by the coaling and stevedoring companies, in grossly overcrowded conditions without any washing or sanitary arrangements, the nearby beach just across the main road served as a combined bath and lavatory. The owners never had the smallest idea who lived in these dormitories and what went on there after dark, which was probably just as well for their peace of mind in this town where women were closely guarded and youth was uncontrolled.

By the end of the World War no very great improvement in conditions was noticeable and the housing shortage, already acute, was rendered more so by a Town Planning Scheme which virtually paralysed all building operations for two years, and achieved little else except an impracticable scheme which was brought into force in a modified form and then,

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362 mercifully, abandoned. The post-war increase in Aden's trade
464 brought more and more skilled and unskilled workers into the Colony, until the unsatisfactory overcrowding, at one time confined to the poorer elements of the population, had spread to white collared workers and highly skilled labour. Key money was illegal but no heed was paid to the law and very few houses changed tenants without it being given and taken in some form or other.

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466 When I came to the Port Trust I set myself to improving the standard of living of the employees and modernising their terms of employment. Government also was striving to improve labour conditions, and in the nineteen-forties a minimum wage ordinance for unskilled daily paid workers passed the Legislative Council and became law. The problems of overtime rates, juvenile employment and maximum hours of work and
[362] many kindred subjects were studied and ordinances were drafted to provide very necessary legislation. At the same time a Housing Committee was set up under the Director of Public Works to tackle the housing shortage problem. Meanwhile we in the Port Trust decasualised as much of our labour as we
[657] could and Government followed suit with theirs, an example to business houses which they were in no hurry to follow. I introduced a families' medical scheme with a lady doctor in charge for Port Trust employees, which was immediately successful and which I have no doubt Government would have
[465] liked to have seen become Colony-wide; but it was not to be, there were too many difficulties. Some of the more enterprising commercial houses introduced superannuation schemes and medical benefit for their employees, and by 1954 annual leave on full pay had become the rule rather than the exception. It is extraordinary how quickly a lead is followed, and in a few short years after the war progress was made which in many countries has taken a life-time. The speed with which these concessions were granted upset the equilibrium of some workers who, anxious to make hay while the sun shone, began to demand more and more, well beyond their just entitlement, but on the whole labour behaved surprisingly well and there was only one serious industrial disagreement during this

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

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[468]

period. The Anglo-Iranian Oil Company's bunkering and installation workers went on strike without serious consequences to anyone. Our really bad labour trouble was to come later.

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Government set up a Labour and Welfare Department, and labour ordinances which had lain unenforced for years were brought into reality, much to the disgust of some factory owners whose premises were a danger to their employees and a disgrace to the Colony. So the progress went on, first one problem was tackled and then another, but I believe the working people derived most benefit from the housing schemes which were introduced. The Port Trust led the way in this field with a bold scheme to house the majority of their permanent labour force. I was glad to have been able to initiate that scheme, and I was even better pleased before I left Aden in 1956 to see completed the Government housing scheme at Ma'alla where 1,500 flats had been erected on a very modern housing estate planned primarily for Government employees. Even housing, like the measles, is catching and the major commercial undertakings followed the lead given them and it became usual rather than unusual for most permanent employees to be housed by their employers.

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While all this building was going on in Tawahi and Crater, the outskirts of the Colony were not forgotten and Government erected over 1,000 houses at Sheikh Othman to relieve overcrowding.

This is not meant to be just a list of the achievements of Government and employers in the labour field, but an indication of the all-round efforts which were made in a comparatively short space of time to improve the working conditions and the housing of the workers in the Colony, especially those who were the least well provided for financially. All this activity, beneficial though it was, failed in one vital respect. Only in a few exceptional cases was there any real improvement in master and man relations. The employers remained out of touch with their men just when the closest co-operation and understanding was essential. They took little interest in their employees as individuals either inside the

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2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

with freight rates and stevedoring charges, the employers were disorganised and were, for the most part, in active competition with each other. They were very conscious of the considerable improvements in living and working conditions which had been made by them and they felt that they were entitled to expect, if not the gratitude of their workmen, at least a period of industrial calm free from further demands. They were alarmed at the increase in the number of the Trades Union, which meant only one thing to them and that was more and more and bigger and bigger demands by labour until commercial life became impossible. It seemed quite clear to the majority of the employers that the Unions would have to be fought and brought to their senses or broken, and that this must be done before they became too strong.

Although the continued anti-British broadcasts from Cairo had undoubtedly had their effect on the general atmosphere in the Colony, which the activities of the nationalist National United Front Party had done nothing to improve, labour as a whole was behaving reasonably well. There were, of course, some differences of opinion between individuals and Managements, but the two main labour problems were being dealt with. The first of these problems, which was not in any way extraordinary and concerned shift rates for stevedores, was under discussion between employers and the Labour Department of Government, and a satisfactory settlement was in sight. The second problem was out of the ordinary and was a direct result of the improved housing conditions which many workmen now enjoyed. Put simply the trouble was that the provision of better and modern housing had increased the cost of living of the occupants to a point where, on their wage scales, they could not make both ends meet and were distinctly worse off financially than they had been before the new houses and flats were available. The reason for this curious state of affairs was not increased rent, because although there had been an increase it had been cushioned by subsidisation by Government, the Refinery, the Port Trust and the commercial houses which provided housing for their employees. Previously many of the workmen concerned had been living three or four families

2: Hickinbotham G-4, 5 (ca. 1931-ca. 1957)
1958 MM1 Aden MM1

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362 together in one room, or verandah, or in a scrap-wood and
511 corrugated iron hut on the hillside. They had no washing facilities and used public latrines, and when the kerosene oil in the lamp was exhausted they went to sleep. The new accommodation had running water laid on, a bathroom and water-borne sanitation and electric light. This was as it should be, but this was where the trouble arose because water and electricity in Aden had both to be paid for, and investigation showed that the provision of these necessities increased the workman's monthly expenditure by fifteen per cent. There was also some social rivalry among the families and trying to live up to the Joneses never does reduce expenditure.

511 Yet another cause of increased expenditure, which was uni-
871 versal and did not apply specifically to the dwellers in the new houses and flats, was that more children were going to school. In 1921 there were 359 boys in Government schools, by 1948 this had increased to 4,000 boys and girls, and by 1956 no less than 10,000 children were attending Government schools and many more were going to other educational establishments. Primary and Intermediate education were free and even at Aden College and the Technical Institute the boys of poor parents were able to continue their education with Government scholarships, so the trouble was not with school fees. The parents' financial burden was added to because the boys and the girls had to be decently dressed in clean clothes to go to school, instead of wearing any old thing to hang about the town in or run errands.

468 The Aden Government and the Refinery Management
(465) were alive to the difficulties of their employees and we and they were taking steps to solve the problem by a revision of some of the wage scales to relieve the financial pressure on the less well paid men. If our plans could have been completed before an unfortunate dispute between a Management and Trades Union officials lighted the fuse to set off a chain of strikes, which were exploited by the National United Front for their own ends, it is probable that the trouble when it came, and come it probably would have done in the atmosphere then prevailing in the Colony, would have been quite limited

5:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MM1 Aden M/M

579 Aden by sea. On the day before, the Commissioner of Police had resumed control of security in the Colony.

It was hoped that this calm would be maintained, but on 20th and 21st December feelings again ran high and there were renewed attempts at arson and looting.

On 24th December a bomb exploded in the coolie lines at Hedjuff, killing 2 Arabs and wounding 6, and on that afternoon, in view of the gravely tense situation and of the absolute necessity to use all available forces to put down disorder immediately it should occur, the Fortress Commander was requested to resume security control throughout the Colony and retained that function until 2nd February, 1948. The situation however had eased at the end of the month.

Civilian casualties during the riots were 33 Arabs, 4 Indian Muslims, 1 Somali, 78 Jews and 6 other persons of unknown race, killed. Very many were known to have been wounded or injured.

The Police suffered no fatal casualties, but an Assistant Medical Officer and one Levy were killed in the execution of duty.

ECONOMIC DEVELOPMENT, FINANCE AND TRADE

Development Committee

646 At the meeting of the Legislature held on 28th April, 1947, the Council adopted the First Report of the Development Committee as the general development policy for the next ten years, subject to periodic review of details in the light of experience, and the inclusion of such additional schemes as might prove necessary as a result of unforeseen circumstances.

652 The Estimates of the Colony for 1948-49 provide a total of Rs. 27,27,000 for approved development schemes.

362 His Majesty's Government agreed to make a free grant under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act towards the cost of working-class dwellings at Sheikh Othman. The amount of the grant is £27,500 during a five-and-a-half-year period. A further grant will be considered at the end of that period.

Economic Control

439 The hopes expressed earlier that it would be possible to dispense with
656 the Economic Control Department as restrictions on trade were lifted were unfortunately not realised, and the economic crisis which confronts the United Kingdom and the whole of western Europe is having a natural effect on the economic life of Aden, which is dependent upon the maintenance of a vigorous trade for its prosperity.

Since August, 1947, a policy of restricting imports to reasonable essentials and to those goods which are required for the entrepot trade was followed. The merchants co-operated with Government in making this policy effective and as a consequence Aden was able to make a substantial contribution to important foreign exchange reserves. Many essentials remained scarce and in order to ensure that there should be no further reduction in the standard of living of the great bulk of the inhabitants Government maintained a policy of making adequate supplies of essential

S.Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MM1 Aden

Causes of Deaths in 1947

Disease	Deaths
Smallpox	—
Malaria	37
Enteric Fever	5
Other Fevers	223
Dysentery	16
Diarrhoea	265
Phthisis	244
Other Respiratory Diseases	240
Injuries	75
Deaths from child-birth	17
All other causes	701
Birth-rate	30·43
Death-rate: Crude	23·50
Actual	18·59

HOUSING

362 There are four types of housing in the Colony:

(a) Well-built bungalows or two-storeyed houses of European design, owned by Government or commercial firms and occupied chiefly by Government officials and the European mercantile community.

(b) Well-built multi-storeyed stone in lime-mortar structures, owned by the wealthier type of merchant, most of which are owner-occupied.

(c) Single- and two-storeyed buildings constructed of rubble stone jointed with mud (clay) mortar. Quite a number of these are also owner-occupied.

(d) Single-storeyed "mud brick" buildings. These are situated mostly in Sheikh Othman and many are owner-occupied.

342 All four types have flat timber roofs covered with lime concrete or rammed clay. Pitched roofs are rare, as the average annual rainfall is less than 2 inches, and the roofs are used for sleeping purposes during the hot season.

There is a fifth type constructed of reeds, palm leaves, branches of trees, corrugated iron, and known as *kutcha* dwellings. (*Kutcha* is a Hindustani word meaning "of poor construction".)

362 A slum clearance and rehousing scheme, whereby these *kutcha* huts were to be replaced gradually by mud-brick dwellings with proper sanitary arrangements, was begun under the aegis of the Aden Settlement in 1943, and this policy is being continued by Government. Up to the end of 1947, 80 of these dwellings had been constructed, and a further 116 were scheduled to be begun in 1948.

362a During the war and for a period afterwards, for a variety of reasons (principally large military constructional works, increase in the strength

S.Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1947) 1949 MMI Aden M M1

of the Garrison, and famine in the hinterland), the floating population increased considerably, and in the absence of proper accommodation were perforce allowed to construct and live in *barasti* huts in specially demarcated areas.

While control is exercised as far as is possible to prevent epidemics, these are slum areas, which can only be cleared by Government building several hundred working-class houses at a sub-economic rent; areas for this purpose are being reserved under the Town Planning Scheme.

The Town Planning Scheme is gradually taking shape, but in the absence of adequate trained staff, the work can only make slow process. Relaxation on the restriction of building by private enterprise has, however, led to the issue of 78 Permanent Building Permits in 1947 compared with 21 during 1946.

The shortage of some building materials, particularly semi-manufactured iron and steel products and sanitary fittings, is still acute and many projects are held up for this reason.

During 1947 the Township Authority was able to embark on two housing schemes.

(1) In Sheikh Othman 40 houses were erected for working-class families. The scheme is financed in part from a grant under the Colonial Development and Welfare Act.

(2) An area in Crater was planned on which Government intends to erect 76 working-class houses of a slightly better type and in which 86 plots were made available for owner-occupiers to erect houses for themselves, a standard plan having been drawn up and approved by the Township Authority so that building could be done as cheaply as possible. Both Township Authorities of Aden and Sheikh Othman set up permanent Housing Committees whose functions are to allocate all houses erected by Government other than houses erected specifically for occupation by Government employees. The Committee set up in the Fortress Area decided on the allocation of plots referred to above on which houses were to be erected by private enterprise. As town planning legislation has not yet been enacted, there has been some delay in making available plots of land in the Fortress Area on which better-class houses could be erected by private enterprise on any substantial scale. Residential building has been confined mainly to reconstruction or adding storeys to existing houses.

In addition, private building was encouraged where possible.

SOCIAL WELFARE AND RELIEF

There are no social insurance schemes in Aden Colony.

A Government social welfare organisation is being built up gradually, but has been handicapped through lack of staff. A Poor Relief Committee, financed partly through public subscriptions, but notably through

6:Gt. Brit. Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MMI Aden M M1

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Food

Butter, Rs. 2.4.0 per lb.
Cheese, Rs. 1.1.0 per 12-oz. tin.
Fish, about 1 anna for a fish of the herring type and size, or less for coarser fish.
Flour, 5 as. per lb.
Ghee, Rs. 2 to Rs. 2.8.0 per lb.
Meat, 10 as. to 12 as. per lb.
Potatoes, 4 as. per lb.
Rice, 7 as. per lb.
Soap (Key Pale), 6 as. per 250-gram cake.
Sugar, brown, 5 as. per lb.
white, 6 as. per lb.
Tea, Rs. 1.14.0 per lb.

Clothing

Sheeting, coloured, Rs. 1 to Rs. 2 per yard.
Shirt, Rs. 5.
Shirting, white, Rs. 1.8.0 to Rs. 1.12.0 per yard.
Tropical suit, Rs. 60 and upwards.

Utilities and Petrol

Electric light, 5 as. per unit.
Water, 4 as. per 100 gallons.
Petrol, Rs. 1.6.0 per gallon.

Rents are high and accommodation scarce.

[362 • 647]

There is no separate Labour Department and efforts to secure a Welfare and Labour Officer during the year were not successful. The District Commissioner acts as Labour Officer and investigates such complaints as are brought to his notice.

No labour legislation was passed during the year. The following are the more important Ordinances in force:

464 466 465

Employment of Women, Young Persons and Children Ordinance (*No.* 20 *of* 1938)

This prohibits the employment of children under 15 years of age, and the employment of women or young persons between 15 and 18 years of age on nightwork or in specified occupations.

Factories Ordinance (*No.* 21 *of* 1938)

This provides for the health and safety of persons working in factories, their hours, holidays and overtime pay, and provides for the appointment of factory inspectors.

Workmen's Compensation Ordinance (*No.* 40 *of* 1939)

This provides for the free medical treatment of workmen and their compensation in the event of injury causing loss of employment or death.

Minimum Wage and Wages Regulation Ordinance (*No.* 17 *of* 1940)

This provides for fixing the minimum wages to be paid in any occupation.

6:Gt. Brit. . Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MM1 Aden M M1

Training

759 This year has seen a considerable extension of facilities for training. One Senior Assistant Medical Officer was absent on study leave for the greater part of the year to take a post-graduate course. He has since obtained the F.R.F.P.S. (Glasgow). One Arab student proceeded to Birmingham University to take a medical course. Two hospital assistants were sent to the United Kingdom for three years' training as male nurses.

One hospital assistant was enrolled at a London hospital for one year's training as laboratory technician.

One Sanitary Inspector proceeded to Bombay to take a six-month course of training prior to examination for the Sanitary Inspector's Certificate of the Royal Sanitary Institute.

161 *Vital Statistics*: 1948

163 Population—1946 Census	82,359
Births	2,192
165 Birth-rate	26·61 per thousand
Deaths	1,360 (338 non-residents)
Death-rate	20·62 per thousand
Deaths under one year of age	385
Infant Mortality Rate	171·18 per thousand
Still-births	125

342 HOUSING

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6:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MM1 Aden M M1

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During the war and for a period afterwards, for a variety of reasons (principally large military constructional works, increase in the strength of the Garrison, and famine in the hinterland), the floating population increased considerably, and in the absence of proper accommodation were perforce allowed to construct and live in *kutcha* huts in specially demarcated areas.

While control is exercised as far as is possible to prevent epidemics these are slum areas, which can only be cleared by Government building several hundred working-class houses at a sub-economic rent; areas for this purpose are being reserved under the Town Planning Scheme.

The Town Planning Scheme is gradually taking shape, but in the absence of adequate trained staff, the work can only make slow progress.

SOCIAL WELFARE AND RELIEF

There are no social insurance schemes in Aden Colony.

A Government social welfare organisation is being built up gradually, but has been handicapped through lack of staff. A Poor Relief Committee, financed partly through public subscriptions, but notably through Government which contributes Rs. 50,000 per annum, dispenses relief to the aged and infirm. A voluntary committee also collects materials and funds, especially for children's welfare.

There are no social welfare officers or probation officers at present; the appointment of a social welfare officer has been approved, but he has not yet been appointed. An Assistant Welfare Officer who was trained in the United Kingdom arrived in December, 1947, and has taken up his duties.

Chapter 8: Legislation

Twenty-seven Ordinances were passed during the year 1948, of which the following are the more important:

Income Tax (Relief Amendment) Ordinance, 1948, No. 3, which gives family relief in respect of one wife and not more than four children. The loss involved by this concession has been provided against by increasing taxation in the higher grades.

Prisons (Amendment) Ordinance, 1948, No. 4, which carries out the recommendation of a locally appointed Prison Reform Committee by reducing the number of prison offences which are punishable with whipping.

Widows' and Orphans' Pensions (Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance, 1948, No. 19, which provides *inter alia* that a certain class of employee of the Aden Port Trust shall be eligible to contribute.

Aden Pensionable Levies (Amendment) Ordinance, 1948, No. 20, which provides for the grant of pensions to native officers and enlisted clerks.

Appeals to the Court of Appeal Ordinance, 1948, No. 22, which

6:Gt. Brit. . Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MM1 Aden MM

692 provides for appeals from the Supreme Court to be heard by the Court of Appeal for Eastern Africa. Prior thereto appeals lay, under Article 20 of the Aden Colony Order, 1936, to the High Court of Judicature at Bombay. Before the introduction of this Ordinance that Article was revoked, and Orders in Council were made which extended to Aden the provisions of the Eastern African Court of Appeal Order-in-Council, 1921, and included Aden with the East African territories in the right of final appeal to the Judicial Committee of the Privy Council.

Criminal Court (Amendment) (No. 2) Ordinance, 1948, No. 23, which contains amendments consequential on the change in the Appeal Court; and in particular prescribes more fully than previously the procedure to be followed after a sentence of death.

659 Antiquities Ordinance, 1948, No. 24, which repeals the Antiquities Ordinance, 1940, and makes more comprehensive provision for the preservation of objects of archaeological interest, proper and scientific excavation, the control of export and import of antiquities and for the ultimate disposal of those found by licensed excavators.

278 Penicillin Ordinance, 1948, No. 25, which is to ensure that penicillin is used only on the advice of qualified persons.

●362 A Bill entitled an Ordinance to make provision for Town Planning was introduced in the final session of Legislative Council and passed its second reading. It was referred to a Select Committee for reporting back to the Council in the first session of 1949. The Bill is a comprehensive one, there being no town planning legislation at the present time.

579 The normal work of the Legal Department was hampered during the early months of the year as a result of the aftermath of the riots which took 647 place in December, 1947. In particular there was an official enquiry 692 conducted by Sir Harry Trusted, K.C.M.G., K.C., at which the Department was represented; there were a large number of prosecutions for offences during the riots, and into appeals following thereon; and there was an enquiry by the Crown Counsel, appointed a Special Magistrate for the purpose, into some 800 claims under section 16 of the Police Ordinance, 1937, for damage suffered by members of the public during the riots. The investigation of these claims alone took approximately five months.

000 The Revised Edition of the Ordinances which was referred to in the Report for 1946 as being ready for printing in January, 1946, is still not ready for publication owing to the pressure of work on the persons concerned in the United Kingdom in indexing and printing. It is understood however that more than half of the work has been completed and it is hoped that the publication will be possible in the near future.

Chapter 9: Law and Order

JUSTICE

692 The Colony has a Supreme Court with unlimited civil and criminal jurisdiction. Up to 30th September, 1948, an appeal lay from the Supreme Court to the High Court of Judicature at Bombay. As from

6:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1948) 1950 MM1 Aden MM1

632 services, the maintenance and improvement of roads, the provision of recreation facilities for the Aden public and the control of building operations. 435 It has still been found necessary to maintain foodstuffs stalls in the municipal markets in order to ensure that the majority of the population can purchase essential foodstuffs, such as sugar and rice, at Government controlled prices.

•362 During 1948 the Township Authorities were able to build a further 40 houses in Sheikh Othman for working class families, and recently 40 families were moved into them, their former insanitary mud and wattle hovels being destroyed thus removing a source of danger to public health. In Crater 12 houses were completed and allocated.

PORT ADMINISTRATION

504 The Port of Aden, which affords safe accommodation for vessels up to 34 feet in draught (vessels of deeper draught can be handled by working 647 the tides), is administered by a Board of Trustees constituted under the Aden Port Trust Act, No. V of 1888. The Board is at present composed of four officials including the Chairman, and eight non-officials. The Trustees, with the exception of the Chairman, are appointed by the Governor for a period of two years. Vacancies during this period are also filled by the Governor.

The minimum depth of water at low tide available in the approach channel and the inner mooring basin is 36 feet; there are 19 first-class berths, including 11 oil berths, suitable for large vessels; 5 second-class berths, including 1 oil berth, suitable for vessels of medium size; 8 third-class berths suitable for small vessels. The oil berths are connected to the land installation by submarine pipe line; all berths are available for the supply of bunker coal and general purposes.

[502] The Port Trust maintains a pilot service consisting of one Harbour Master and nine pilots.

The Aden Port Trust publishes a separate Administration Report.

Mercantile marine matters are dealt with by the Port Officer. The present incumbent is also Superintendent of Lighthouses.

Finance

652 The following statement shows the opening and closing balances with actual receipts and expenditure for the year ending 31st March, 1948:

Opening balance on 1st April, 1947 .	Rs.	5,37,470	7 3
Receipts for the year 1947–48 . .		41,34,740	8 9
	Rs.	46,72,211	0 0
Expenditure for the year 1947–48 .		39,74,764	8 2
Closing balance on 31st March, 1948 .	Rs.	6,97,446	7 10

NOTE: The Port Trust Accounts are maintained for the financial year and not for the calendar year.

7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden MM1

563 fallen below Indians in numbers and influence. There has thus been a temptation for the less responsible sections of the Arab press to transfer to Indians the animosity previously stirred up against the Jews as an alien and wealthy race, extorting inflated profits from the poor ignorant Arab.

648 The feeling of solidarity between Arabs and Pakistanis has been demonstrated on the visits of H.M. Pakistani ships of war. At the same time it must be placed on record that British and Indian ships have been given most cordial receptions.

641 Some constitutional advance was made by the reduction of the property qualifications for electors to the Township Authority of Fortress, and the introduction of an income qualification, which increased the number of voters from 1,600 to 5,000. The next election will be held in March, 1951.

647 Social work has been helped by the formation of a Social Welfare
746 Advisory Council, which includes unofficial representatives of all races, and a Labour Advisory Board, also with substantial unofficial representation, has been set up.

362 The shortage of housing remains one of the most important problems facing Government. Some 280 working-class houses have been built by Government at Sheikh Othman, but these replace insanitary mat houses which were destroyed as the new buildings became available, and do not provide additional accommodation; it is estimated that at least 2,000 new houses are needed. The Government is examining new methods of cheap and rapid construction, and seeking means of financing a substantial housing programme from Government or private funds.

643 His Excellency Sir Reginald Champion, K.C.M.G., O.B.E., proceeded on leave prior to retirement in October, 1950. He served in Aden from 1928 to 1934; he was appointed Chief Secretary in 1942 and Governor in 1944.

000 Visitors to Aden included Mr. Bevin and Mr. Creech Jones, who called briefly in transit, and Sir T. Lloyd, Permanent Under Secretary of State who made a comprehensive tour of the Colony and Protectorate.

DEVELOPMENT

652 The finances of the Colony continue in a healthy condition and revenue remains buoyant. The financial year 1949-50 ended with a deficit of Rs. 10 lakhs compared with an estimated deficit of nearly Rs. 40 lakhs. Expenditure exceeded the estimate by over Rs. 6 lakhs and revenue was up by over Rs. 36 lakhs. Unfortunately it was not possible to carry out the full programme under the development plan, and expenditure on capital works fell short of that programme by Rs. 22 lakhs. The excess of expenditure over the estimate was due mainly to extraordinary expenditure on revision of salaries and rehabilitation loans, all of which were paid during 1949-50. On the other hand, the Colony's surplus balances were written down by over Rs. 20 lakhs owing to the sharp fall in the value of investments at the end of the

342 (c) Single and two-storied buildings constructed of rubble stone jointed with mud (clay) mortar. Quite a number of these are also owner-occupied.

(d) Single-storied "mud brick" (clay) bricks sun dried only buildings. These are situated mostly in Sheikh Othman and many are owner-occupied.

[132] All four types have flat timber roofs covered with lime concrete or rammed clay. Pitched roofs are rare, as the average annual rainfall is less than two inches, and the roofs are used for sleeping purposes during the hot season.

There is a fifth type constructed of reeds, palm, leaves, branches of trees, corrugated iron, and known as "*kutcha* dwellings." (*Kutcha* is a Hindustani word meaning "of poor construction".)

362 A slum clearance and rehousing scheme, whereby these *kutcha* huts were to be gradually replaced by mud brick dwellings with proper sanitary arrangements, was begun under the aegis of the Aden Settlement in 1943, and this policy is being continued by Government. Up to the end of 1950, 360 of these dwellings had been completed, and it is planned to begin building a further 80 in 1951.

During the war, and for a period afterwards, due to a variety of reasons (principally large military constructional works, increase in strength of the Garrison, and famine in the hinterland), the floating population increased considerably and, in the absence of proper accommodation, were perforce allowed to construct and live in *kutcha* huts in specially demarcated areas. While control is exercised as far as is possible to prevent epidemics, these areas can only be termed slum areas, and the solution would appear to be the construction by Government of several hundreds of working-class houses, and areas for this purpose are being reserved under the Towr Planning Scheme.

511 The standard of living in these areas is very low indeed, but even
362 this is apparently higher than in the hinterland, as no effort is being made by these people to return home, and any attempt at coercion with mass removal of the hovels would undoubtedly create serious difficulties.

SOCIAL WELFARE AND RELIEF

657 The Labour and Social Welfare Department began work in January,
746 1950, under the direction of the District Commissioner. The activities of the new department were confined largely to a study of conditions, and the presentation to Government of some reports and recommendations. The staff consists of a Labour and Welfare Officer, an Arab Assistant Welfare Officer (trained in the U.K.) and one clerk.

The services and activities usually associated with a Welfare Department are in the main not yet in existence in Aden. There are a certain number of voluntary organisations which carry out excellent work, the majority of these depending on European workers and officials.

7: Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 MM1 Aden mm1

The only relief organisation is the Aden Central Poor Relief Fund which administers a Government grant of Rs. 50,000 and a small income from investments. 657 746

It must be noted that the population of Aden is largely immigrant; the workpeople come to the port to work for eighteen months or two years, and then return to their homes. This circumstance adds to the difficulty of organising and financing social services. The gravest social problem in Aden is the lack of housing. For most of the population the family has only one room or a shack, whilst many male workers live in the streets. 167 362

In August the newly-formed Social Welfare Advisory Council began its activities. 746

In June a census of the blind was attempted. In all 263 blind persons were interviewed by a medical specialist and the Welfare Officer, and were registered. Few applicants were rejected as not being blind. Some criticism has been voiced that this register is still incomplete: some immigrant blind children were noted as having failed to report. A committee, which has been appointed to report and recommend to Government on blind welfare, held its first meeting on 4th January, 1951. 732 657

Considerable success was attained during the year in the use of probation for juvenile offenders, and it is now rare for any other method of correction to be tried in the case of Aden boys who are brought before the Courts for the first time. For homeless Yemeni boys who get into trouble probation is not suitable and a satisfactory method of treatment has yet to be found. At the end of 1950 it was decided to experiment with probation for adults, and two cases were accepted in December. The Assistant Welfare Officer is the Probation Officer. 738 696

Just before his retirement Sir Reginald Champion donated Rs. 5,308 to form the nucleus of a fund for the creation of the first Community Centre in Aden. The Labour and Welfare Department gratefully accepted this gift and plans are being made with the advice of the Welfare Advisory Council. Every opportunity has been taken by means of lectures, films, pamphlets, etc., to arouse an interest in welfare work, particularly with an aim to encourage the formation of voluntary service groups. 741

Juvenile Probation 1950 738

Number on probation 1/1/1950	3
Total new cases during the year	25
Average number of probationers per month	12
Number on probation at 31/12/1950 ..	10
Probation completed satisfactorily during 1950	15 cases
Probation order revoked	3 "
Percentage of successes	83⅓ per cent

7: Gt. Britain Colonial Office G-3 (1949-50) 1951 mm1 Aden mm1

342

OLD MATTING HOUSES IN ADEN COLONY

362

NEW WORKING-CLASS HOUSES

A Colonial Development and Welfare grant pays for one-third of the cost of these houses which are let at low rentals to rehouse people from matting huts.

p. 48 (c)

8:Gt. Brit., Colonial Office G-3 (1951-52)1954 MM1 Aden MM1

Medical and Public Health Department

647 The Medical Department is divided into three sections under the 743 control of a Director. The three sections include a Medical Division, 744 Public Health Division and Port Health Division.

The Medical Division is responsible for the curative side and comprises a large hospital of 350 beds and three smaller dispensaries for the treatment of out-patients.

The Public Health Division is responsible principally for environmental hygiene and sanitation. In a more specialised field greater attention is being paid to tuberculosis. It is intended in the future to lay more emphasis on the prevention of tuberculosis and towards this end one of the first priorities is the recruitment of a whole-time tuberculosis officer.

Preliminary plans have been produced for the construction of a new hospital.

759 The following medical staff were in the Colony at the end of 1952 :

	Government	*Mission*	*Companies*	*Private Practice*
Director of Medical Services	1			
Medical Superintendent	1			
Medical Superintendent, Clinic	1			
Surgical Specialist	1			
Medical Officers	9	3	3	11
Assistant Medical Officers	9			
Lady Assistant Medical Officers	2			
Matron	1			
Nursing Sisters	15	2		
Dental Officer (part time)	1			
Assistant Dental Officer	1			
Nursing Orderlies	148			

Expenditure

652 Central Government capital expenditure during 1951 was estimated at £13,000 and recurrent expenditure on the whole Medical Department was estimated at £155,000.

HOUSING AND TOWN PLANNING

[161] 362 Because the population is continually increasing, there is still a serious housing shortage and it is estimated that there are 25,000 squatters' huts in the Colony. Delay over the preparation of town planning schemes held up housing development, which is now getting under way. Outline town plans for most of the areas of the Colony are almost complete.

Government has already built 524 working-class houses at Sheikh Othman, with the assistance of a 33⅓ per cent grant from Colonial Development and Welfare funds. A further 240 houses are planned for the next two years. Several of the large employers of labour have embarked on extensive housing schemes for their staff.

3:Royal Institute of International Affairs U-4 (no date)1954 M1 Middle East
Aden-MMI

Britain provide for post-secondary education, but it is hoped eventually to develop Aden College to university standard. Working-class houses were being built to replace insanitary houses of matting, but the shortage of housing remained one of the most important problems. In 1952 a scheme which had been under discussion in Aden for five years, to supplement the existing civil hospital of 350 beds with a new 600-bed hospital, received Colonial Office approval. However, rising costs and delays in the supply of equipment have caused the postponement of plans to provide water-borne sewerage and to expand the electricity supply and the automatic telephone system, which were desirable to keep pace with the large increase in population.

Cable & Wireless Ltd provide cable and telegraph communication with all parts of the world and operate a radio telegraph station working to the countries of the southern Red Sea area. In 1950 a radio-telephone service was opened to Great Britain and the three British East African territories. In 1950 BOAC made Aden the base for its Red Sea services and formed a subsidiary organization called Aden Airways; regular services are available to all the surrounding territories by these and other air lines. The terminal building of a civil airport is still under construction. The garrison is under the command of the senior RAF Officer, Aden. Apart from RAF personnel the Aden levies, which are recruited locally and number some 2,000 men, are available for service in the Colony and on special duties in the Protectorate.

History

In Himyarite times and earlier, traffic in incense gave considerable prosperity to what is now Aden Protectorate. The main incense road to the Mediterranean, through Sana, Mecca, and Petra, started from Husn al-Ghorab (Raven Castle), a tiny rock-island off the Hadramaut coast, some 200 miles east of modern Aden. This land route survived with diminishing importance until about the sixteenth century. Towards the end of that century English traders began to look East, and in 1600 Queen Elizabeth granted a charter to the East India Company. Its primary object was to establish British trade in India in competition with their maritime rivals, the Portuguese and Dutch. As a first exploit an expedition was dispatched to Aden and the Red Sea, but, failing to open up a factory at Socotra, it was withdrawn in 1608. Next year a second expedition reached Aden, but Turkish permission to establish a factory was refused. In 1614 the Dutch, who had formed a rival East India Company

ably meager. The basic foods are usually breads, dates and milk products, supplemented by vegetables and fruits in season and by varying amounts of meat and fish. Although breads are most frequently prepared from sorghum millet (durra), other forms of millet, as well as maize, wheat and barley are widely used. Rice is generally popular, and large amounts are imported. Dates constitute one of the main food items throughout this region; date palms flourish along some wadies, but the annual crop is inadequate. Numerous types of vegetables and fruits are available in the agricultural areas.

Sheep and goats are raised in both the Colony and the Protectorate. Their milk is used extensively, but only the pastoral tribes are apt to have a sufficient supply. Cow's milk is also consumed in the Colony and in some inland districts, particularly in Western Aden Protectorate, where the grazing conditions are suitable for cattle. Camel's milk is a staple food among certain Bedouin tribes. Ghee, or clarified butter, is employed in the wealthier families. The fat from the tail tissues of the local breed of sheep, which is an important substitute in the Colony and among the eastern tribes, is almost unknown in Western Aden Protectorate. Sesame is cultivated in many areas, and the oil constitutes another source of fats. Meat is seldom consumed more than once a week, except in the more prosperous households. Fish are plentiful along the coast, and both fresh and dried fish are commonly used in the diet.

Housing

Several different types of dwellings are found in Aden Colony. In general, the standards of housing are higher than in the neighboring territories. All variations are encountered between the multistoried stone houses of the wealthy Arabs, the modern style villas of the European and official communities, and the one- or two-story structures of stone or mud brick in which most of the people live. Regardless

of size and construction, the houses usually have flat roofs, which can be utilized during the summer months for sleeping purposes. The increase in population within recent years has led to the growth of settlements of *barcha* huts, made of reeds, palm leaves or corrugated iron, in the outlying districts. Some of the laborers employed in handling cargo or coal are quartered in barracks, but many live in crude hut settlements in which the sanitary conditions are a menace to both townships. Slum clearance was started in 1943, and housing programs have since been undertaken in Crater and Sheikh Othman. They are financed by the Colonial government and subsidized by grants from the British Colonial Development and Welfare funds.

Stone, mud brick and brushwood are utilized for building purposes in the Protectorate. The type of housing and the character of the villages in different areas are governed by the materials available and the need for making them defensible. Walled settlements predominate, but scattered dwellings surrounded by brushwood stockades are frequent in Western Aden Protectorate. In the towns the larger houses of stone or mud brick have from 3 to 6 stories, with accommodations for the livestock on the ground floor. In contrast with the elaborate dwellings of the wealthy, the homes of the tribesmen are small and rarely of more than one story. They are typically overcrowded, dark and insanitary, while the animals are often kept in close association with the family. The Bedouin in the interior use the traditional camel-hair tents, but the nomadic tribes and fisherfolk near the coast live in huts of straw, thatched palm or matting.

ENVIRONMENT AND SANITATION

Water Supplies

Water is usually scarce, except in parts of the western highlands which benefit from a heavier rainfall. The main water supply for Aden Colony is derived from 10 deep